

EPA-PNL-1607

Palmer Hough/DC/USEPA/US

04/16/2012 02:42 PM

To aicher.rebecca, Barbara Butler, Bill Dunbar, Cara Steiner-Riley, Christopher Hunter, Dave Athons, David Allnutt, Glenn Suter, Hanady Kader, Heather Dean, Heidi Karp, Jason Todd, Jeff Frithsen, Jenny Thomas, Jim Wigington, Joe Ebersole, Judy Smith, Julia McCarthy, Kate Schofield, Marianne Holsman, Mary Thiesing, Michael Szerlog, Palmer Hough, Phil North, Rachel Fertik, Richard Parkin, Sheila Eckman, Tami Fordham

cc Nancy Stoner, Ken Kopocis, Denise Keehner, Benita Best-Wong, evans.david, Jim Pendergast, Heidi Nalven, Gautam Srinivasan, hunter.christopher, Jim Keating, Sonia Altieri, Scott Fraser

bcc

Subject Report out: 4-16-12 Sportsmen for Bristol Bay's meeting with LPJ

Bristol Bay Team:

This morning over 40 reps from sporting groups and businesses from AK and the rest of the country (see attached participant list) met with Administrator Jackson to discuss the value of Bristol Bay's fishery, particularly its sport fishery, and their desire that EPA take steps to protect this resource from the potential adverse impacts of large-scale mining proposed for the region (i.e., Pebble Mine). Speakers included: Chris Wood, President and CEO of Trout Unlimited (TU); Michael Gehrke, VP, The Benenson Group; Jason Metrokin, President and CEO of Bristol Bay Native Corporation (BBNC); and Whit Fosburgh, President and CEO of the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership. Some of the points highlighted by speakers included:

- 1) Regional analysis of BBNC shareholder survey results that illustrate high levels of opposition to Pebble Mine among BBNC shareholders in all regions of the BB (Range of 93% opposition in Nushagak Region to 68% opposition in Iliamna Region) - see attached
- 2) BBNC and TU shared the findings of a report it commissioned by two former EPA wetlands experts. The report concludes that developing a mine on the scale envisioned by Pebble would result in significant adverse impacts on the aquatic ecosystem that are unparalleled when compared to past 404(c) actions. The report also provides three potential 404(c) restrictions targeted exclusively at mining of the Pebble Deposit.
- 3) On March 23, 2012, Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA), which represents all 31 Federally recognized tribes in the BB Region, passed a resolution (apparently unanimous among the 25 tribes present) that supports the set of targeted 404(c) restrictions developed by BBNC. - see attached
- 4) Recent polling in 13 states found that "65% of hunters and anglers support EPA action to place restrictions on the Pebble Mine" - see attached.

The Administrator thanked the group for its support for EPA's ongoing BB assessment, for highlighting the value of the Bristol Bay fishery, and for highlighting that protecting this fishery is an issue of great importance not only to Alaskans but to folks all across the country.

Attached are the documents cited above as well as other documents shared at the meeting.

No follow-up actions were identified.

Thanks, Palmer

Other Documents Shared :

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Washington, DC 20460
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